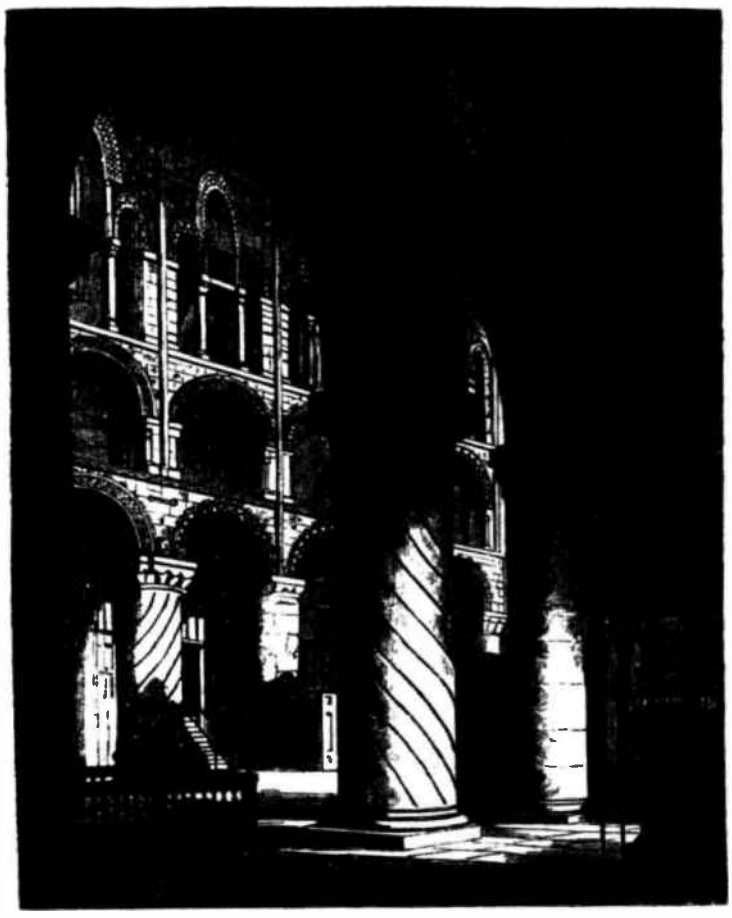
WALTHAM ABBEY CHURCH, ESSEX.



SUGGESTED RESTORATION OF WALTHAM ABBEY CHURCH, ESSEX.

We are glad to hear that steps are about to be taken to form a committee for the restoration of this interesting building, and we cordially wish the promoters success. Among the many remains of a magnificent architecture once employed to mark the temples of the God of heaven and earth, those at Waltham Abbey are not least in beauty and interest. Some of our readers will remember a notice we gave of them not long ago. The monastery of Waltham was founded by Harold in the year 1062; and according to tradition became the resting-place of the body of that unfortunate monarch after the battle of Hastings.

Of this once extensive monastery little else remains except the church, now the parish church of Waltham Holy Cross, of which we give a view: and this, through the indifference of past generations, is in a sad state. It has been grievously injured and disfigured. Old windows of fine proportions and considerable beauty have been stopped up; and modern windows which would disgrace any private house have been put in to supply their place; a flagrant example of which is the present east window. The whole building is defaced by plaster and whitewash, by which the architecture of the noble arches and massive pillars is covered over and hidden from view. Now, when it is remembered that this church is the parish church; that its main walls are understood to be good and strong, capable of lasting yet as many years as they have already stood; that it contains fine specimens of our most ancient architecture; that in spite of all the injuries it has suffered, it still stands out in the midst of its desolation a noble ruin, telling of its former greatness, and as it were imploring a little aid; when all this is considered, surely it must be confessed that something *should* be done towards its restoration. If the parish is of itself unable to meet the expense of such restoration, the public should give their aid to preserve a public structure.

MARYLEBONE DISTRICT SURVEYORSHIP.

The Marylebone district has been divided into two, and new surveyors appointed. Mr. White, son of the late surveyor, was elected, without opposition, to the northern division; and Mr. Jennings, by 64 votes, to the southern. Mr. Cantwell had 33 votes, and Mr. Little 25. The other candidates were Mr. Eales, Mr. Christian, and Mr. Roberts. Mr. Moseley was nominated as a candidate, but withdrew his name from the list.

ENTRANCE TO ST. PATRICK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, DUNDALK.

The new entrance has been designed to correspond with the style of architecture of the church, which is Gothic, of the Perpendicular period. It has a frontage of about 95 feet. The church, which is erected in granite, is at a distance of 60 feet in the rear. At each extremity of the new front is an open porch, about 11 feet by 6 feet, having octagonal piers, 4 feet 4 inches wide, at each side. These piers have sunk panels, and above each rises an octagonal turret, with panels, having a series of quatrefoils sunk in them; and surmounted by a crocketed pinnacle, terminated by a cross. Around the caps of the piers are raised letters, forming the sentences, "Diligit Dominus portas Zion;" "Aperite mihi portas justitiæ;" "Ingressus in eas confitebor Domino;" "Hæc porta Domini justi intrabunt in eam." A parapet is continued over the arches between the piers, which parapet is cut through; and in the centre stand upon pedestals the figures of St. Patrick and St. Malachi, the patron saint, one over each entrance, with the names raised upon ribands below; under which are carved monograms of Christ's name, encircled with a crown of thorns. Over the inner arches, on back elevation, panels with mitres, pectoral cross, and pastoral staves, carved therein, are recessed in the stonework. At each extremity and adjoining the porches is an office for the accommodation of the sexton: between the porches are five open arches, 9 feet 6 inches wide, having a cut stone base supporting a twisted wrought-iron railing, and having a cross higher than the rest on the centre bar. Rule joint gates, of the same pattern, are fixed in each of the porches. Circular quatre-foile openings, filled with plate glass, light the offices at the extremities. The entrance is built of Scotch freestone, and cost about 900*l*. Mr. Thomas Turner, of Belfast, was the architect: and Messrs. Robinson and Kelly, also of Belfast, the contractors.

Our artist has introduced a few trees in the court enclosed by the gateway, not there at present.

The scale of the drawing is 4 feet to an inch.

Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society.—The quarterly meeting of this society was held on Thursday in week before last. A number of ancient and curious articles were exhibited; and the chairman, Rev. J. Gunn, addressed the meeting. A communication from Mr. J. A. Repton, on archæological remains near Aylsham, and one by Mr. Harrod, on the earthworks of Norwich Castle, were then read, and some remarks made on other subjects.

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